

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCCT-01 SCS-03 /051 W

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Z 230940Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO AMCONSUL ASMARA FLASH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 6034

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10190

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJ: DEATH OF TWO AMERICANS

REF: ASMARA 714

1. KNOW YOU WILL BE SWAMPED WITH IMMEDIATE DETAILS TO TAKE CARE OF AND REPORT, BUT IT NOT TOO SOON TO START BUILDING INFO YOUR REPORTING, AND OURS AS WELL IN SUPPORT OF YOURS, QUESTION OF HOW WE WILL HANDLE PROBLEM PUBLICLY.

2. IT VITAL THAT WE (STATE), CISCO AND NAVY FOLLOW SAME LINE. IT SEEMS TO US FOLLOWING POINTS WILL NEED IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:

A. IT IMPORTANT THAT WE NOT CAST BLAME ON EPMG FOR LACK OF SECURITY PRECAUTIONS ALONG ROAD TO TRCT D. SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IN EFFECT WAS OUR COLLECTIVE DECISION. WE WILL WANT YOUR SUGGESTIONS SOONEST ON WHAT TO SAY TO PRESS ON THIS PROBLEM DRAWING ON WHATEVER DISCUSSIONS YOU MAY HAVE HAD WITH EPMG AUTHORITIES THERE.

B. IT ALSO IMPORTANT THAT WE SAY NOTHING IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT MIGHT JEOPARDIZE CISCO TWO (I.E. UNCOMPLIMENTARY REMARKS RE INSURGENTS).

3. ALSO WE SHOULD NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSION THAT AMERICANS
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WERE NECESSARILY TARGET, AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS SHOULD AVOID

ANY SUCH SUGGESTION. PENDING INVESTIGATION AND /OR EVALUATION,
IT POSSIBLE MINE HAS BEEN IN PLACE FOR SOME TIME. IN ADDITION,
WE UNDERSTAND 2ND DIVISION USES SAME ROAD. YOU
SHOULD ALSO COMMENT ON THIS POINT IN GUIDANCE TO WASHINGTON.

4. SINCE DEPT AND WE MAY BE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE INQUIRY
CONCERNING INCIDENT, NEED TO GET OUR DUCKS IN A ROW QUICKLY.
SUGGEST YOU INCLUDE THESE POINTS IN YOUR REPORTING. THIS
WILL GIVE US IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AND MAKE
SUGGESTIONS TO DEPARTMENT.
HUMMEL

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Disposition History: n/a
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To: ASMARA
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